Montana Newsletter

Montana State Library

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MONTANA STATE LIBRARY

News

STATE DOCUMENTS COLLECTION

Montana State Library

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VOLUME 17, NO. 3 MAY 1988

On April 13th Governor Ted Schwinden signed a proclamation declaring 1988, The Year of Library Awareness in Montana in honor of National Library Week. He was joined at the signing ceremony by Sara Parker, State Librarian; Patricia Roberts, Director of the Department of Commerce Census and Economic Information Center; Sharon Borer, Librarian of the Broadwater County Library in Townsend and Diana Loble, District Media Specialist in Helena.

COMMISSION APPROVES 1988 LSCA PROJECTS

Alberton, Opheim, Marion, Lambert and Lame Deer schools were each awarded $15,000 grants by the Montana State Library Commission at its meeting in Helena, April 30. The grants will enable each of these school libraries to expand its services to the public on its community.

The Commission also approved 1988 LSCA Title II Construction matching grants for the following projects: $107,332 to build a new public library in Belgrade, $36,500 to build an addition on the Lincoln Community Library, $3,000 to complete Bitterroot Public Library's construction project by installing a parking lot with handicapped access, $10,000 to Fort Benton's Chouteau County Free Library to remodel for handicapped access and $3,000 to Plains Public Library to improve energy efficiency by remodeling the library's entrance.

The Advisory Council presented their recommendations for use of 1989 LSCA Title III funds. The Commission gave preliminary approval to four projects including a materials delivery demonstration project which would involve contracting with a private delivery service to provide rapid delivery of time-critical materials among major access points in the state.

Other 1989 proposed projects include $12,500 for collection development meetings, $10,000 for a voluntary certification program for public library staffs and $40,000 for retrospective conversion of the Last Copy Fiction pool at Parmly Billings and of part of the Historical Society collection. The Commission asked the Council to reconsider a fifth project which would have hired an automation consultant/trainer for libraries in the state.

The next Commission meeting is scheduled for June 22nd in Helena. The date of the August 17th meeting in Hamilton has been changed to August 25th.

RICHARD GERCKEN RESIGNS

Richard Gercken, Director of the Great Falls Public Library, has resigned effective May 14th. Gercken, who has been in Montana since 1969 and Director at Great Falls since 1977, will become Director of Adult Services at the Massillon Public Library and Museum in Massillon, Ohio.

The Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped hosted a luncheon for their volunteer workers at the State Library on April 22nd.

MONTANA STUDENTS PARTICIPATE IN YRCA AWARDS

[illegible] Grade Girl Really Kn[illegible] by Washington State author Phyllis Reynolds Naylor, [illegible] the winning of the Pass Young Reader's Choice Award announced by the Pacific Northwest Library Association.

The [illegible] 3,902 votes cast by 4th through 8th grade readers from [illegible] Montana [illegible] Columbia.

Other [illegible] Young Adult [illegible] Grade Level [illegible] Librarians in Montana and [illegible] Washington [illegible] Grade [illegible] Award [illegible] Reynolds Wood, [illegible] Cleveland [illegible] Betsy Byars [illegible].

[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [

MONTANA WINS JOHN COTTON DANA AWARD

The Montana Libraries public information program "Mindlight" has received a John Cotton Dana Special Award. The international award, sponsored by the H.W. Wilson Company, recognizes outstanding achievement in the promotion of library services will be presented at the American Library Association conference in New Orleans on July 11th.

The program, sponsored jointly by Montana library federations and produced by Sage Advertising, featured a multimedia approach including print, television and radio advertising.

FAXNET PROJECT WINS SILVER

The Montana Faxnet Project has been selected by Administrative Magazine of New York to receive the 1987 Silver Office Automation Award for outstanding achievement in its innovative use of facsimile technology. The Montana Faxnet Project placed second in a field of 112 applicants.

The project was awarded special recognition for its ability to speed the communication of and access to important written materials to rural libraries, government and law offices, educational sites, hospitals and other facilities throughout the state and nation.

MONTANA LIBRARIES PART OF U.S. CENSUS PROJECT

The Census and Economic Information Center, a division of the Montana Department of Commerce, in Helena will be one of 15 pilot sites for the United States Census Bureau's new Business and Industry Data Center (BIDC) initiative.

The Bozeman Public Library celebrated National Library Week by inviting young readers to launch balloons with cards attached indicating names, addresses and favorite books of the launchers. The April 16th event attracted about 100 people.

The BIDC builds on a resource already available in many Montana libraries, the Montana State Data Center Program. The Census Bureau, through the program, provides easy access to census information by supplying microfiched data, training, technical assistance and consultation.

The new program will take the system a step further and will explore ways to improve the availability of economic statistics. It is designed to serve business, government and university organizations to further economic development in the state.

There are currently 18 Montana libraries in the Montana State Data Center Program.

SUMMER READING BIBLIOGRAPHY

The National Endowment for the Humanities has published the pamphlet, "Summertime Favorites". It is a bibliography of "tried-and-true" titles published in 1900 or before. The bibliography is designed to encourage extra curricular reading and is arranged by Kindergarten through Grade 6, Grades 7 and 8, and Grades 9 through 12. Free copies of the pamphlet may be obtained by writing:

"Summertime Favorites"
National Endowment for
the Humanities, Room 406
Washington, D.C. 20506

AROUND THE STATE

The phone number for Montana State Library interlibrary loans was incorrectly listed in the April Update. The correct phone number is 444-3016.

Julie Shepard was recently named Head Librarian of the Hearst Free Library in Anaconda. She replaces Natalie Shepcevich.

(See "Around" pg 4)

Recommendations of the Law Revision Committee

- The committee considered but does not propose to develop legislation on: Intellectual freedom Relationship of the State Library and libraries in other state agencies Criminal penalties on destruction or theft of library property or penalties on overdue books
- The committee recommended the library community be made aware MCA 6-101 on criminal mischief could be cited in instances of destruction or theft of library property or for failure to return overdue materials.
- The committee recommended there be better knowledge of MCA 22-1-1101, the Montana Library Records Confidentiality Act.
- The committee recommended MCA 22-1-211, which concerns the State Documents Distribution Center, be revised by the addition of contracted reports to those items identified as "documents" and the deletion of language prohibiting the State Library from publishing lists of documents.
- The committee recommended MCA 22-1-401 on library systems and federations and MCA 22-1-103 on the authority of the Library Commission be substantially revised.
- The committee recommended the Information Access Bill, previously introduced in 1987 as HB603 on State Aid for Libraries, be the primary focus for legislative effort by the library community in the 1989 Legislative Session.
- The committee stated if the library community will support the proposals with a nearly unanimous voice, the legislation should be drafted and introduced.

(Article Cont. from pg. 3)

The Montana Faxnet Project [illegible] Law director[illegible] and [illegible] for Montana [illegible] Libraries [illegible] operating [illegible] The project will be mailing a free copy to each public, academic and special library in Montana. Additional information may be obtained from Linda Brander at the State Law Library [illegible] Helena, MT [illegible].

Gladys Zahner retired from her position as director of the Ronan City Library on March 31st. During Zahner's five-year tenure, physical improvements were made in the library as well as an extensive review and weeding of the collection. She was replaced by Sue Greenman who was previously an assistant at the library for 2 1/2 years.

The Dillon Public Library was recently placed on the National Register of Historic Places.

Marilyn LeBlond, Director of the Sidney Public Library, has been spending many of her Sundays since October at the Fort Union Trading Post National Historic Site accessioning and cataloging the site's library collection which specializes in Upper Missouri River history.

Livingston Public Library was the recipient of a rare book which may be a valuable reference for Montana libraries. The book, History of Montana 1885, donated by two Livingston women, is one of the few copies in existence.

Montana State Library Commission

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